

STATE OF ARKANSAS ASA HUTCHINSON, GOVERNOR Arkansas Women's Commission

Special Guest Bios April 19, 2022

Dr. Kristy Carter

Dr. Kristy Carter is a researcher, social scientist, and inclusive ecosystem builder whose life work is dedicated to helping leaders of marginalized and economically distressed communities. At the University of Central Arkansas, Kristy is Director of Marketing for Outreach and Community Engagement and a charter member of UCA's award-winning Minority Vendor Partnership Initiative through the Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion. She was also a founding member of the Women's Leadership Network. Dr. Carter is a graduate of the Ph.D. in Change Leadership for Equity and Inclusion at UCA. Her research centers on inclusive ecosystem building for communities of color, emphasizing Black women entrepreneurs. She is a native Arkansan, born and raised in Hot Springs, and now calls Conway home, and she loves everything about the Natural State.

Ms. LaTeasha Gaither-Davis

LaTeasha Gaither-Davis is the founder and CEO of Therapeutic Focus, a pediatric therapy clinic established in 2011 that provides occupational, physical, and speech therapy services to children with disabilities in West Memphis, AR. LaTeasha received a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Health Sciences from The University of Central Arkansas and is currently pursuing a doctorate in Educational Leadership. She has grown her practice from a single member to a staff of sixteen. She is not only known for her entrepreneurial endeavors but also for philanthropic works which include partnering with non-profit organizations, creating a caregiver support group for parents in her community, and creating internships for high school students. She realizes the importance of paying the gift of a thriving future forward to others, particularly within her community, which is why she is so passionate about helping children overcome delays.